

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 8, 10 and 11 are amended and claim 12 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Support for the amendment to independent claim 1 may be found at least in a description in paragraph [0032] and Fig. 4. Claims 2-11, the specification and the Abstract are amended solely for clarity. Thus, no new matter is added. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Personal Interview

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Redman in the August 24, 2009 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over alleged applicant prior art (Fig. 7 (sample no. 3), hereinafter "AAPA") in view of Japanese Patent No. 10-026231 to Nagasawa.

The applied references, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose projecting ridges that have a cross section formed into a shape of substantially a scalene triangle that are used for sealing a glass run channel, as recited in independent claim 1.

Specifically, the Office Action acknowledges that the AAPA fails to disclose this feature. In addition, Nagasawa fails to disclose a glass run channel. Furthermore, Nagasawa fails to disclose projections that are located on the surface of a sealing lip body of a glass run channel. Instead, Nagasawa discloses an oil seal 1 that is fitted into the cylinder 2 and discloses projections 50 and 60 of the oil seal that are maintained at fixed locations, as shown in Fig. 1.

The above feature of independent claim 1 is illustrated in Fig. 4. Specifically, Fig. 4 shows interior and exterior sealing lips 24/25 including a sealing lip body 26/27 and a plurality of projecting ridges 30/31 that are formed integrally on a surface of the sealing lip body 26/27 so as to extend in a lengthwise direction of the sealing lip 24/25. Furthermore, the projecting ridges are provided substantially in parallel with each other along the lengthwise direction of the sealing lip. The projecting ridges have a cross-section that is formed into the shape of a substantially scalene triangle, which has a longer side at a root side of the sealing lip and a shorter side at a distal end of the sealing lip. Based on this structure, the claimed projecting ridges are capable of being brought into sliding contact with the glass surface in an upward and downward movement because they are formed integrally on the surface of a sealing body. The structure of the projecting ridges discussed above allows the glass run channel to be sealed more effectively and efficiently while also reducing any friction that may occur, thereby reducing noise. Because Nagasawa fails to disclose the above feature, Nagasawa also fails to achieve the resulting benefits.

Fig. 1 of Nagasawa, combined with paragraphs [0021]-[0022] of its specification, disclose projecting ridges that further differ from those of the claimed invention. The projecting ridges 30/31 of the claimed invention can be provided substantially in parallel with one another along the lengthwise direction of the sealing lip 24/25 as shown in Fig. 4 of the present application. This serves to reduce wear and tear of the glass run channel by further minimizing the friction that occurs. Paragraphs [0021]-[0022] and Figs. 1-3 of Nagasawa indicate that the circumferential surface is incorrectly labeled 42 and it should be labeled 41. As a result, the projections 50, 60, 150 and 160 of Nagasawa are each formed into a triangle, scalene in shape, and are provided on the circumferential surface 41, but not on the sealing lip 42. In addition, each projection of Nagasawa extends in the direction intersecting the lengthwise direction of the circumferential surface 41 of the fit-in part of the oil seal 1. As a

result, Nagasawa discloses a substantially different structure than the claimed invention, thereby failing to achieve the same function or purpose as that of the above feature.

In addition, Nagasawa's projections also serve a substantially different purpose than the claimed projections. Specifically, despite the shape of Nagasawa's projections, the purpose of Nagasawa's projections is to allow a cylinder wall surface to have foreign matter easily scraped off when an oil seal is attached to a cylinder. In addition, the Nagasawa projections increase the friction drag between the oil seal and a mounting surface (cylinder inner circumferential surface 20). This differs from the projecting ridges of the claimed invention because the claimed projection ridges serve the purpose of reducing the frictional force between the window pane and the sealing lips, in order to improve a sliding performance and to prevent noise during the sliding of a window pane. Thus, it would not have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art to apply the teachings of Nagasawa to the AAPA, nor would one of ordinary skill in the art have been motivated to do so.

In addition, and as further evidence of a lack of motivation to combine, Nagasawa discloses an invention that is in a substantially different technical field. Specifically, Nagasawa discloses a sealing device used in a shaft sealed part of an automobile, as stated in paragraph [0001]. In Nagasawa's disclosed sealing device, the first and second projections 50 and 60 are each formed to have a triangular cross-section. Figs. 1 and 2 of Nagasawa show that these formations are provided for the side of fluid O subjected to sealing a circumferential surface 41 of a fit-in part for an oil seal (the sealing device) 1 and the side of fluid A is subjected to anti-sealing. This technology of Nagasawa is diametrically opposed to that of the claimed invention, where the purpose is to seal a glass run channel. Additionally, Nagasawa belongs to the international patent classification (hereinafter "IPC") F16J15/32, whereas the claimed invention belongs to IPC B60J10/04. Accordingly, these two exist within two very different technical fields. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully

submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine Nagasawa with the AAPA.

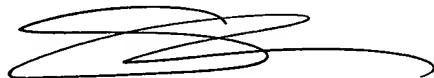
For at least the reasons discussed above, independent claim 1 is patentable over the applied references as discussed during the August 24, 2009 interview. Claims 2-11 are patentable at least for their various dependencies from independent claim 1 as well as for the additional features they recite. Claim 12 is canceled, rendering its rejection moot.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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